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Brendy Lynn Belony

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor

:Naoto KIMURA

Filed

:April 19, 2004

For

:SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Serial Number

:10/827,067

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 14, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this document is written in a language other than English, an English Language abstract is annexed thereto explaining its relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3).

Also attached is a copy of a Chinese Office Action dated April 9, 2004 from the corresponding Chinese Patent Application. All of the documents listed in Form PTO- 1449 appear in the Japanese Office Action.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael I. Markowitz Reg. No. 30,659

Customer Number: 026304

Docket No: NEC 19.740A

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| Patent and | | | rademark Office | | Filing Date : April 19, 2004 | | | | | | |
| INFOR | MATION | DISCLOSURE | | | | <u> </u> | | | | | |
| | | | First Named Inventor: N. KIMURA | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | Attorney Docket No.: NEC 19.740A | | | | | | | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | 8-250652 | JP | AT&T CORP | | 09-27-1996 | | | | | |
| | | 2000-307053 | JP | SONY CORP | | 11-02-2000 | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials | | | | | Applicant check her if English language translation attached | |
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| | Chinese Office Action, April 9, 2004 | | | | | |
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| Examiner Signature | | | Date Considered | | | |

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Unique citation designation number. See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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